

Sarah S. Pratt "Why Doctor Grimes Whispered" memoir S1075

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Pratt, Sarah S., 1853-1942
Title	Sarah S. Pratt "Why Doctor Grimes Whispered" memoir
Date	undated
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1075

Preferred Citation

Sarah S. Pratt "Why Doctor Grimes Whispered" memoir, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Few facts are available on the life of Mrs. Sarah Smith Pratt, 1853-1942. She grew up in Delphi, Indiana, where her mother was actively involved in the underground railroad. In 1883-1886, she was a resident of Logansport, Indiana, where she edited a weekly newspaper called the "Sunday Critic", which belonged to her husband, W. D. Pratt, and to which she contributed a column, "Flotsam and Jetsam." She was founder and for six years editor of "On Meridian", a publication of the Indianapolis Young Womens Cristian Association. In 1917 she was contributing to the "Living Church", the "Churchman", and to other periodicals.

Publications by Sarah Smith Pratt:

Blue Cashmere Gown: a Story of a Missionary Box. Milwaukee, 1914.

The Old Crop in Indiana. Indianapolis, 1928.

Episcopal Bishops in Indiana; a Churchwoman's Retrospect. Indianapolis, 1934.

Guess This Word. Indianapolis, 1938.

Source:

Indiana Authors and their books, 1816-1980. <http://purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/inauthors/encyclopedia/VAA5365-01>

Scope and Contents

This collection includes an original copy of the 7 page memoir, "Why Doctor Grimes Whispered" from Sarah S. Pratt of Delphi, Indiana regarding the Indiana underground railroad. With the collection is a single page copy of two advertisements for runaway slaves from South Florence, Franklin County, Alabama, posted in the "Louisville Public Advertised", February 5, 1833.

Also included in the collection is an insurance card for Home Insurance Company, Lafayette, with "Miss Sarah J. Smith" and the "Mrs. R Higginbotham" penciled on the front; and on the back side of the card, names of members of the Busy Bee Society are listed, including Lucy Pigman, Sallie Smith, Anna Smith, Jennie Jordann, Tibbie Blanchard, Hattie Graham, Belle Holt, Mary Bowen, Susie Benz, and S. Smith, President. According to Mary Pratt, Sarah's daughter, the Busy Bee Society met during the Civil War under Mrs. R.L. Higginbotham in Delphi for the purpose of sewing for the soldiers.

The second card is a sketch of Camp Readyville, Tennessee. The card includes the inscription "sketched by Matt Pratt" scrawled in pencil at the top of the card; the name is also etched in fine print at the bottom. Identification of brigade, division, etc., are etched in fine print across the bottom.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged by subject.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Mary Pratt in 1943.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/07/23 by Linda Gellert. EAD finding aid created 2015/07/23 by Linda Gellert.

Related Materials

Related Archival Material

Materials relating to this collection may be found in the following collections in the Indiana Division and Genealogy Division, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN:

ISLI 917.72 P917O: The old crop in Indiana

ISLG Microfiche LH13064: The old crop in Indiana

ISLI 283 P917E: Episcopal bishops in Indiana: A churchwoman's retrospect

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Alabama
- Camp Readyville (Tenn.)
- Delphi (Ind.)

Subject(s)

- Abolitionists--Indiana--History
- Runaway slaves
- Underground Railroad--Indiana